

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/902,667

Examiner

Zoila E. Cabrera

Applicant(s)

NISHIMOTO ET AL.

Art Unit

2125

## -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to RCE and amendment filed on 01/17/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2, 10 and 18.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

## Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 1/10/07.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Allowable Subject Matter*

1. Claims 2, 10 and 18 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The allowability of the claims resides, at least in part, that the closest prior art of record **Inui et al. (US 5,204,821)**, **Andrade (US 2003/0109950 A1)** and **Akihiro (JP 11312197 A1)** does not disclose or suggest, alone or in combination the step of:

As for independent claim 2, **correction means for correcting the virtual production line prepared by the virtual production line preparation means according to actual production results of the objects, wherein the parts ordering means places a parts order after calculating the parts ordering timing based on the corrected virtual production line; wherein the correction means changes the virtual production line by detecting a production progress; and wherein detecting the production progress includes detecting objects that have completed production from the production line, in combination with the other elements and features of the claimed invention.**

As for independent claim 10, **corrects the prepared virtual production line according to actual production results of the objects, and places a parts order after calculating the parts ordering timing based on the corrected virtual production line; wherein the controller changes the prepared virtual production line by detecting parameter of a production progress; and wherein detecting the production progress includes detecting objects that have completed production**

Art Unit: 2125

**from the production line**, in combination with the other elements and features of the claimed invention.

As for independent claim 18, **correcting the prepared virtual production line according to actual production results of the objects; and placing a parts order after calculating the parts ordering timing based on the corrected virtual production line; wherein the prepared virtual production line is changed by detecting of a production progress; and wherein detecting the production progress includes detecting objects that have completed production from the production line**, in combination with the other elements and features of the claimed invention.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

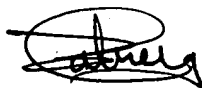
2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Zoila E. Cabrera whose telephone number is 571-272-3738. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. EST (every other Friday).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Leo Picard, can be reached on (571) 272-3749. The fax phone number for

Art Unit: 2125

the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-9600.

Zoila Cabrera  
Primary Examiner  
March 30, 2007



ZOILA CABRERA  
PRIMARY EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

3/30/07